

Teaching with e-Learning Tools in the Colleges of Olongapo and Zambales during COVID-19 amidst the Enhanced Community Quarantine

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Abstract: President Rodrigo Duterte declares an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ), the lockdown of all entry and exit points in the entire Luzon. This is to prevent the fast-spreading of COVID-19 in the entire Luzon as well as its neighbouring regions. Part of the ECQ was the temporary suspensions of mass gathering which may include the operations of malls, restaurants, and even schools. Both Education Sectors of the Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority announced the temporary suspensions of classes. (Luna, 2020). The researcher will be using a descriptive research method in identifying the effectiveness of the e-Learning in Philippine Merchant Marine Academy and Central Luzon College of Science and Technology thus Descriptive research is defined as a research method that defines the physiognomies of the population or phenomenon that is being studied. One important characteristic of a descriptive research design is it relates the facts that it can employ a number of variables and only one variable is required to conduct a descriptive study. Moreover, descriptive research might be characterized as simply the attempt to determine, describe or identify what is or while analytical research attempts to establish why it is that way or how it came to be, Ethridge (2004). The researcher will be using stratified random sampling to represent each group. The study attempted to know about the proper implementation of e-Learning tools as an alternative tool amidst COVID-19 crisis. As stated in the methods, the researcher selected a stratified sample of 270 respondents studying at the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy and 50 students from the Central Luzon College of Science and Technology. An Online Google Form survey was carried out to find out the extent of implementation of the e-Learning. The Google Form was comprised of background information, awareness scale, and other open as questions. The results gathered were put through data analysis and interpretation which are presented in this section. As we reached the 20th Century and as a surprising pandemic manipulated the globe which brought a drastic change in our normal way of living, one of the major sector that received a massive impact on its operation is the educational system that we have wherein all was being stopped and institutions crammed on finding ways to reach their student's on how to continue their interactions with them and finish their syllabus before the closing of their classes. Even Commencement exercises were being set to virtual so as not to impose or encourage social gathering. In line with this, the school educators decided to adapt the e-learning system as mentioned above. The researcher therefore determine that in today's current situation it is effective to use this e-learning system to continue the basic educational system and school year will not be hamper. Also, students will be safe in the comfort of their own homes while studying.

Keywords: COVID-19, e-Learning Tools, Teaching, University, ECQ.

1 Introduction

President Rodrigo Duterte declares an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ), the lockdown of all entry

and exit points in the entire Luzon. This is to prevent the fast-spreading of COVID-19 in the entire Luzon as well as its neighbouring regions. Part of the ECQ was the temporary suspensions of mass gathering which may include the operations of malls, restaurants, and even schools. Both Education Sectors of the Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority announced the temporary suspensions of classes. (Luna, 2020),

As referred by the Undersecretary of the Department of Education Allan Del Pascua, “While social media are the very best mediums to deliver facts in this digital age the usage of the contemporary on-hand technologies, using the platform additionally opens one’s identification to the world’s huge web, making younger learners uncovered to different cyber threats.”. Now the Department of Education also brought the use of open educational resources (OER) to promote “equitable and quality education” to all Filipino learners. OER’s refers to a free educational materials that comes with permission and guarantee for being downloadable from the internet. (ABS-CBN News, 2020)

Meanwhile, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) issued recommendations in connection with the prevention of the COVID-19 among HEIs deployment of distance education to students. CHED Chairman J. Prospero De Vera III said: that there is a need to deploy Learning Management Systems amidst quarantine, this is to compensate for the missing face-to-face instruction. (Hernando-Malipot & San Juan, 2020)

Similar to the traditional study room set-up, training is carried out online and has been additionally held on the equal time as everyday instructions we called that manner blended learning were face to face classroom and online are being mixed to make the curriculum more powerful.

Professor Suyat of Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) Open University (OU) System, stated that an blended learning set-up is more effective than the purely online training. “Blended learning is very effective for college students. Through face-to-face periods, we will clarify, summarize, and provide an explanation for the modules or classes to students. (Hernando-Malipot & San Juan, 2020).

Interaction through recitation, group dynamics, person and organization reports, short film, or video showing and different presentations may be practiced and managed throughout offline or face-to-face classes,” Suyat stated. Professor Suyat explained, using blended learning, means having a web and offline session. “Each semester we have two sessions. In every session, there are four offline or face-to-face sessions with college students. There are additionally four online sessions. We use the Mabini Learning Portal. In this portal, we provide our modules, lectures, assignments, requirements, and other requirements needed by the college students,” he added.

2 Methodologies

The researcher will be using a descriptive research method in identifying the effectiveness of the e-Learning in Philippine Merchant Marine Academy and Central Luzon College of Science and Technology thus Descriptive research is defined as a research method that defines the physiognomies of the population or phenomenon that is being studied. One important characteristic of a descriptive research design is it relates the facts that it can employ a number of variables and only one variable is required to conduct a descriptive study. Moreover, descriptive research studies may be characterized as simply the attempt to determine, describe or identify what is, while analytical research attempts to establish why it is that way or how it came to be, Ethridge (2004). The researcher will be using stratified random sampling to represents each group.

The Researcher has distributed 270 questionnaires for the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy and 50 questionnaires for the Central Luzon College of Science and Technology through Google Forms. The first set of questionnaires was sent last March 27 for the

Philippine Merchant Marine Academy and the second set was sent last March 28. The responses were received completely last April 6, there are 270 respondents from the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy and 50 respondents from the Central Luzon College of Science and Technology. Using Google Form the researcher's valuable time was saved during the process of distribution and collection.

E-learning is one of the most immediate responsive tool because eLearning is an instructional strategy for imparting needed knowledge, skills, and attitudes in organizations. The viability, effectiveness, and potential function will have tangible benefits to organizations depend largely on how it is designed, delivered, and evaluated, (Derouin, Fritzsche, & Salas 2005) Other establishments in Zambales and Olongapo uses an alternative learning module, as an example is the Central Luzon College of Science and technology in Olongapo City. Dr. Larafoster noted that there's a need to come up with Alternative Learning to compromise with student's continuous schooling. Dr. Larafoster required all schools to use an Alternative Module and submit a weekly evidence-based communication as proof that the interactive dialogue will continue notwithstanding the stated situation due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Meanwhile, in the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy (PMMA), San Narciso, Zambales they came up with a plan to conduct a modular-based using the Learning Management System to conduct e-learning classes in the absence of the face-to-face instruction. The Strategies for delivering knowledge in the digital age is the e-learning application., (Rosenberg & Foshay 2002).

As of now all the procedures are in the vicinity and working well, but right after the lockdown period, all the professors and personnel are required to report to work.

While the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)'s Scholarship Programs will deliver help to the affected and temporarily displaced people and college students through retooling. It is additionally supplying unfastened guides for all who would like to gather new abilities inside the convenience of their own houses, smartphones, tablets, and laptops through the TESDA Learning Management System (LMS), which helps the

students and constituent's gather abilities and later practice for a National Assessment Examination. (Lazaro, 2020).

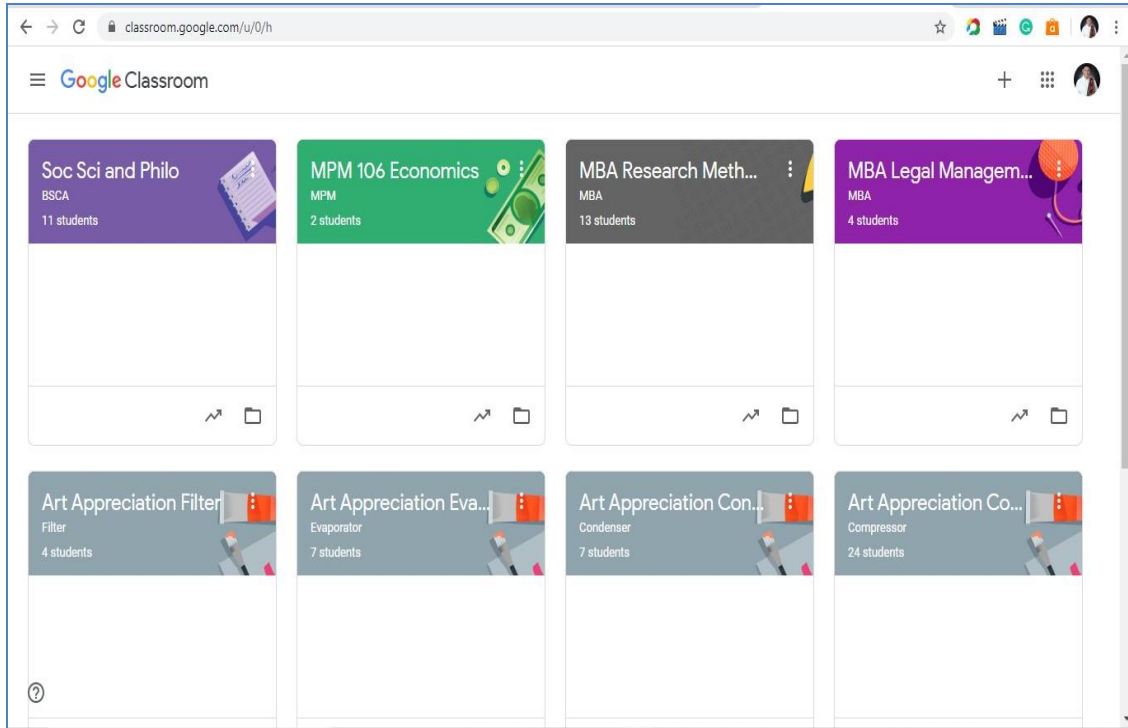


Fig. 1: Using Google Classroom as an e-Learning tool.

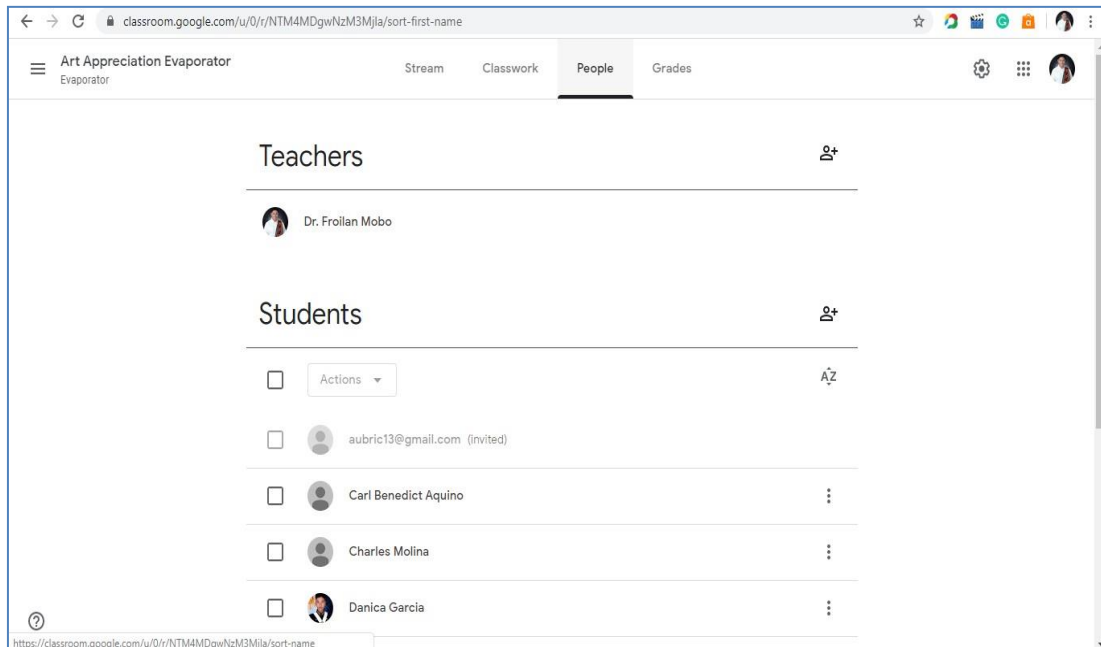


Fig. 2: Features of the Google Classroom Learning Management Systems using classwork, people and grades.

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority urges Filipinos to enlist and be part of it up with guides supplied for nothing through e-TESDA or the TESDA Online Program to maintain efficiency within the midst of the flexibility obstacles to prevent further spreading of COVID-19. The Government keeps on reminding them to remain safe from their homes and practice suitable cleanliness, and to abstain from contacting or spreading the infection.



Fig. 3: TESDA Online Program that can be utilized as a Learning Management System for competency based curriculum.

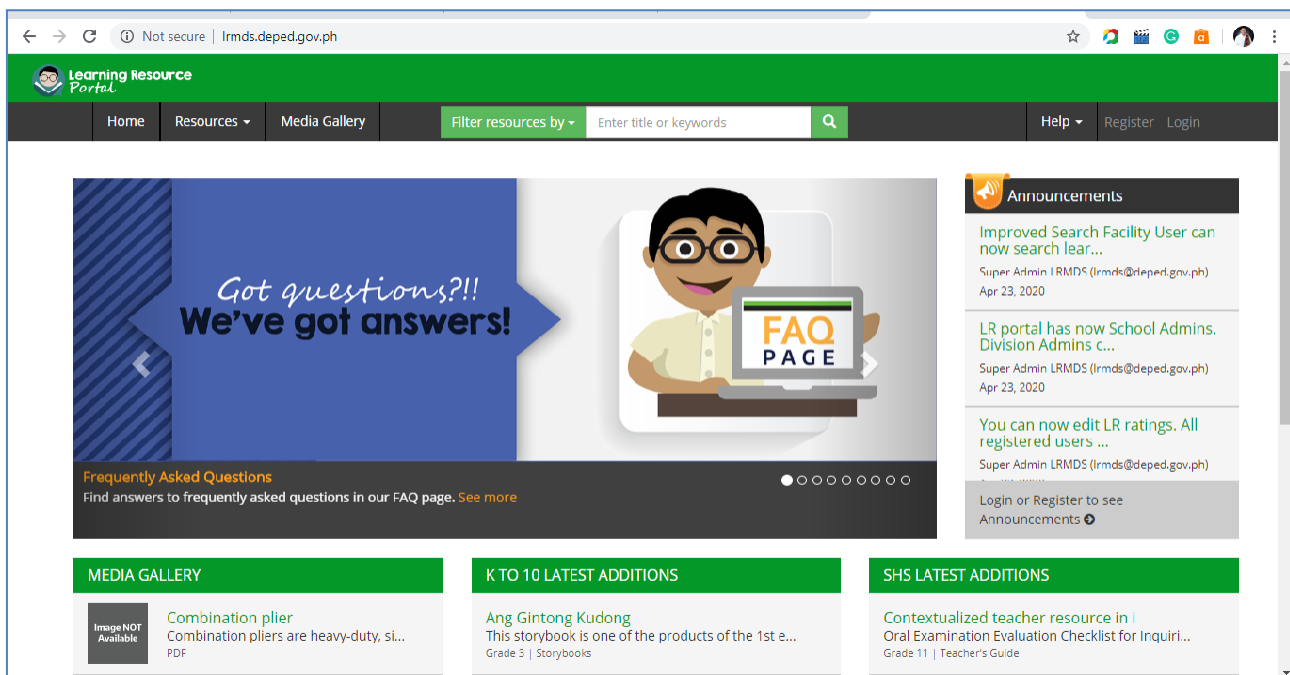


Fig. 4: e-learning platform of the Department of Education (DEPED).

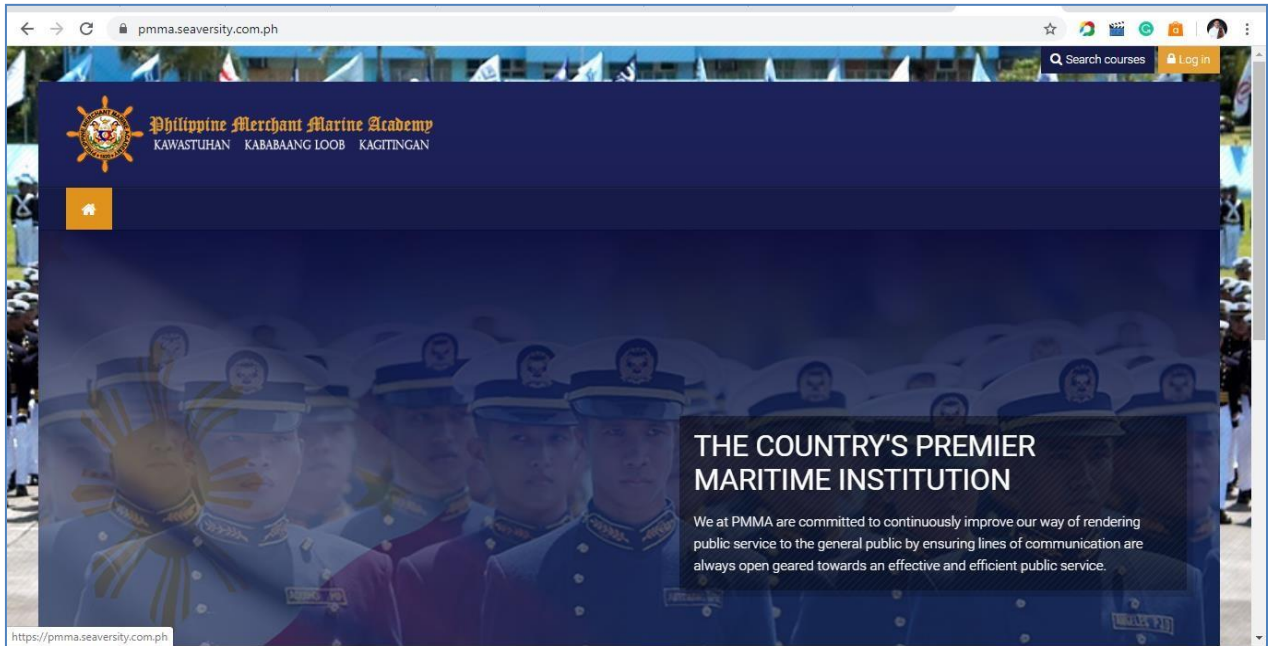


Fig. 5: The Philippine Merchant Marine Academy e-Learning platform.

3 Results and Discussion

The recent study was an try to know about the implementation of eLearning tools as an alternative tool amidst COVID-19 crisis. As stated in the methods, the researcher selected a stratified sample of 270 respondents studying at the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy and 50 students from the Central Luzon College of Science and Technology. An Online Google Form survey was carried out to find out the extent of implementation of the e-Leaning. The Google Form was comprised of background information, awareness scale, and other open as questions. The results gathered were put through data analysis and interpretation which are presented in this sections.

Profiling of the students who have responded in the google form based questionnaire:

Table 1: Profiling of Students per Courses and Institutions

COLLEGES	STUDENTS	POPULATION	PERCENTAGE
Philippine Merchant Marine Academy	BS MAR-E	270	84.38
Central Luzon College of Science and Technology	BS MAR-E	40	15.63
	BSMT	10	

	N	320	100%
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Table 1: shows that there are 320 Students in those who colleges, Philippine Merchant Marine Academy, 270 (84.38) and Central Luzon College of Science and Technology there are 50 (15.63), who are using e-Learning as alternative learning module.

Table 2: Usage of e-Learning Platform.

Questions	Yes	No
Interactive activities	320	0
Autochecking of attendance	318	2
Assessment method	285	35

Table 2: Shows that the functionality of the e-Learning Systems really plays a vital role in terms of Interactive activities: 320 answers YES; Autochecking of attendance: 328 answers Yes and 2 says No; while the Assessment Method results: 285 answers Yes and 35 says No. This means that the functionality of the e-Learning System is effective.

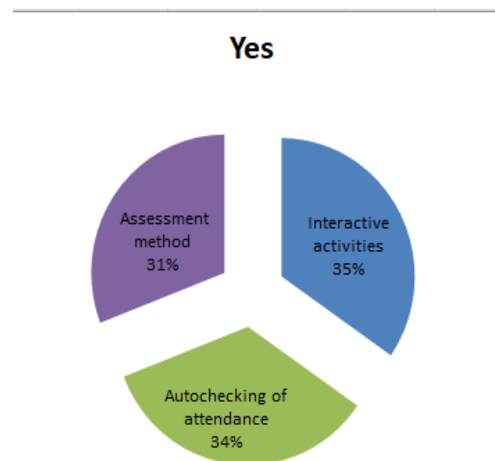


Fig. 6: Shows the percentage of users who says YES.

Figure 1: Shows that the functionality of the e-Learning Systems really plays a vital role in terms of the following iterative: For Interactive activities: 35%; Autochecking of attendance 34%; while the Assessment Method results: 285 answers Yes and 35 says No. This means that the functionality of the e-Learning System is effective.

Study shows that the implementation of the e-Learning tool as an alternative mode during the pandemic disease really helps the student cope up with their missed face to face classroom

instructions. The schools involved in the study will now implement the method of asynchronous delivery of teaching with real-time interaction and e-Learning as an adaptive way in case there is another situations occurs.

As a researcher, it is very essential to be equipped with essentials skills that can be acquired through blended learning and to be up to date with the current educational tools, through which anybody will not be left behind and can learn lessons to abreast with the latest technology. As Study shows that one of the most important aspects of platform are the Learning Objects and the various software tools that aid in their development, storage, use in teaching, and administration. This is because eLearning is often delivered using specific software that assists teachers to create their courses, (Cohen & Nycz, 2006). Using e-Learning amidst COVID-19 helps all educational institutions from Basic Education to Higher Education, and it will be the start of using distance education from all levels in addition to promoting paperless digital transactions in all sectors thus “Successful e-learning takes place within a complex system involving the student experience of learning, teachers' strategies, teachers' planning and thinking, and the teaching/learning context.”, (Alexander, 2001).

4 Conclusions

As we reached the 20th Century and as a surprising pandemic manipulated the globe which brought a drastic change in our normal way of living, one of the major sector that received a massive impact on its operation is the educational system that we have wherein all was being stopped and institutions crammed on finding ways to reach their student's on how to continue their interactions with them and finish their syllabus before the closing of their classes. Even Commencement exercises were being set to virtual so as not to impose or encourage social gathering. In line with this, the school educators decided to adapt the e-learning system as mentioned above. The researcher therefore conclude that in today's current global pandemic it is effective to use this e-learning system to continue the basic educational system and school year will not be further suspended. Also, students will be safe in the comfort of their own homes while studying.

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